

Police kill 4 robbery suspects in Jos

Plateau Police Command has said that it killed four members of a gang that robbed and kidnapped a deputy director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Abuja.

The Command's spokesman Dominic Iornumbe told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) yesterday in Jos that the victim, Mr Jerry Hassan, was robbed and kidnapped in Jos on Saturday.

The incident occurred around the Plateau State Low Cost Housing area in Jos.

He said that Hassan, who came from Abuja to visit his family in Jos, was attacked when he stopped to make a phone call to his daughter.

Iornumbe said that after collecting his money and mobile phone, the gang asked him for the key of the black

Mercedes Benz car which he was driving.

He said that immediately they collected the key, they took over the driver's seat, bundled Hassan inside the boot and drove away.

Though he was locked up, the police spokesman said that Hassan was able to open the boot a bit from where he stretched out his hand and waved to attract attention.

He said that Hassan's effort yielded positive result as some commercial motorcyclists noticed and pursued the fast-moving vehicle.

Iornumbe said that the alarm raised by the motorcyclists attracted the attention of many people who eventually informed the police that joined in the pursuit.

During the hot chase, he said that two of the suspects

were shot and killed by the police, while the other two were arrested.

Iornumbe said that the two arrested suspects later led a team of anti-robbery police to the hide out of the gang.

On sighting them, he said that the gang members opened fire when they saw the police team approaching.

However, he said that the police team over-powered the challengers, shot and killed two of the gang members in the process before the others fled.

NAN gathered that one of the motorcyclists that pursued the suspects was wounded in the process, while a commercial cab driver was hit by a stray bullet released by a member of the gang. It was learnt that the

commercial driver is receiving treatment at a hospital in Jos. (NAN)

52 traders die

No fewer than 52 traders have lost their lives since the closure of the Onitsha Bridge Head market, Anambra by NAFDAC, an official of the market union has said.

It will be recalled that NAFDAC had on March 6, ordered the closure of the drug market. It also seized and destroyed expired, unregistered and fake drugs estimated at N6.5 billion.

Speaking yesterday in Onitsha while protesting the closure of the market, Chief Uche Eze, Secretary of the Market Union, said the Union lost 52 of their members as a result of hardship within the period under re-